

THE DAILY HERALD

Salt Lake City, - - Utah.

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"THE EDMUNDS LAW."

Under the above head, the Boston *Daily Advertiser* of the 18th instant, contains the following editorial. This *Herald* has frequently shown that the Edmunds law, which in its language knows no difference between Mormon and non-Mormon violators of section 3, has ever been administered by the courts as applying only to Mormons. Only a few months ago the Chief Justice of the Territory, who is so energetic and determined in the enforcement of the act against Mormons, went so far as to discharge from prison a Gentile who had been committed for trial on the charge of violating that section of the law; the man's crime was of the most offensive and immoral character, the victim of his lust being his wife's sister, and the evidence of his guilt was indisputable, being tangible and nothing less than the baby which the unfortunate girl carried in her arms. So determined was His Honor that the law should not be made to apply to any but Mormons that in a habeas corpus proceeding he exercised doubtful judicial powers, and going behind the commitment, went into the merits of the case and discharged the prisoner, not because the latter was not guilty of cohabiting with more than one woman, but because he was not a Mormon and had not come through the form of a marriage ceremony with his sister-in-law. The *Advertiser* article generally is so much in harmony with the position of this *Herald* that we reproduce it in its entirety, remarking that the paper from which we quote is one of the oldest and ablest and most influential Republican journals in America.

In the interesting and forcible letter from Captain John Codman, which we published yesterday, a point is brought out regarding the manner in which the Edmunds law is enforced in Utah, which cannot be too seriously considered by those primarily responsible for just government in the Territories. Section 3 of this law reads as follows:—

"That if any male person in a Territory, or other place over which the United States have exclusive jurisdiction, hereafter cohabits with more than one woman, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor; and, on conviction thereof, shall be punished with a fine of not more than \$300, or by imprisonment of not more than six months, or by both said punishments, in the discretion of the court."

It is strange, indeed, if any one with a mind unprejudiced can see in this section, or in any other part of the act which tends to throw additional light on its any purpose, on the part of Congress to distinguish between Mormons and Gentiles who may commit the misdemeanor thus clearly defined. Nevertheless, Captain Codman charges the United States officials in Utah with having deliberately narrowed the operation of the law so as arbitrarily to exempt penalties of impure life from its penalties. In other words, Captain Codman believes, and he has had excellent opportunities for judging the facts,—that, as now enforced, the United States law punishes with fine, imprisonment and political disfranchisement men who, with at least a show of conscientiousness, marry and support two or more wives; but that these laws are not made to reach the immoral class which pursues its unlawful course, not only without the cloak of religion, but with cynical contempt for social order.

We are glad that Captain Codman, whose integrity and broadmindedness are so fully known in this locality, has taken pains to express himself at length on this important question,—glad, first, because it clears up the misunderstanding caused by his brief sentences, on this point, in the *Christian Register* of August 23, and glad, mainly, because it presents from an impartial source, the very objections which the Mormon leaders have themselves been urging for many months without awakening belief at the east. If these leaders are being enabled by a narrow interpretation of the federal law, to pose as religious martyrs, when the country only wishes to punish them as offenders against social purity, serious harm is being done, and errors are being committed which may, by means of a revulsion of public feeling incident to their discovery, give policy a new lease of life.

The President should investigate the matter thoroughly, and, if the injustice which Captain Codman describes is a fact, reform should follow swiftly. There is nothing to amuse. The public should remember that the error of judgment or principle which it is charged the federal officials have committed does not invalidate any of their past work, so far as prosecution has gone, good has been done. The evil is not in punishing one set of law breakers, but in allowing the rest to go free. No abatement of the rigor of the law should be thought of, but the gentle offenders should be tracked and brought to justice with the same pertinacity displayed in dealing with the Mormons. If this be done, policy will be taken upon with added vigor, even in its strongholds.

HIS DESERTS.

Editor Stead, of the *Pail Mail Gazette*, and his pals and co-workers in the dirty work of exposing London's vices and nastiness for the purpose of incre-

ing the sales of the *Gazette*, have been committed for trial, and the probability is largely in favor of their conviction for procuring the Armstrong girl for immoral purposes, chloroforming her and subjecting her to a physical examination by a physician. Mr. Stead seems to think he is a much persecuted man, and professes an inability to understand why he should be punished for trying to do good, his claim being that he was actuated only by the purest motives and an earnest desire to reform a public evil. The gentleman can not or will not understand that he is not being prosecuted for his intentions but for his acts; not for his laudable purposes, but for his unlawful actions. Mr. Stead may be a man pure in heart and devoted to doing good; but it should occur to him by this time, as it occurred to intelligent men and women weeks ago when his "exposures" were made, that he was unwise as to methods, whatever may have been his aim. The natural result of the filthy stories in the *Pail Mail Gazette* would not be to cure the evils of which they told, but rather to disgust the public, and arouse indignation against those who had dug down into the nastiness that they might endeavor to expose it, to shame and sicken the people. However, the exposure, offensive as it was, was not a crime, nor is it for that that the editor is being prosecuted. In order to make exposures Mr. Stead was guilty of actual crime; he did precisely what he condemned in others, and did it in the same manner that the criminals he was denouncing did. It does not require that crime shall be committed in order that other crime may be discovered and criminals punished.

Editor Stead offended not only London, but the civilized world, and he did so unnecessarily, and if he shall be severely punished, the popular judgment will be that it served him right.

St. John, the cold water candidate for the Presidency last fall, will never forgive the Republican party for its rough treatment of him when it was learned that he carried away enough Republican votes to defeat Blaine. Of course the Republicans will never forgive St. John any more than they will forgive and forget Burchard. The case seems to be one of mutual hatred, and the prohibitionist keeps up his end of the business. In a late speech he uttered the following, which he called a prophecy:—

"And now I want to tell my Republican friends why they can never win another victory. No party that burns its opponents in effigy can live in this country. Isn't it a grand and glorious thing to dress a figure up in a pair of old breeches, give it a name, saturate the clothes with oil and then apply the torch? I pity the party that has no argument better than that. A short time ago a woman, a member of our Temperance Union, was rotten-egged in Taylorville, Illinois. Shame upon the party that will abet or tolerate or refuse to condemn such an outrage!"

The New York *Times* of last Monday says: "A men's scribbler asserts in yesterday's *Tribune* that the President recently had a conversation with Judge O. W. Powers about the letter written by the President to a man who had recommended an unworthy candidate for a judicial appointment, and that Judge Powers subsequently said that from his talk with the President he was satisfied that no such letter had ever been written." It is not likely that Judge Powers ever said anything of the kind. The authorship of the paragraph attributing the statement to him makes the theory of gross blundering or of deliberate falsification on the part of its writer much more natural and probable than any other. No one has or will get from the President any intimation or impression that the letter of rebuke was not genuine and written as published."

Mr. Roswell P. Flower declines the nomination to the Lieutenant-Governorship of New York on the Democratic ticket. It was a matter of surprise that he was put up for the place, those who selected him being familiar with his ambition and loftier aspirations, hence it is no surprise that he has declined. That he refuses to run, however, is to be regretted, for vain and pompous as he is, he is an active political worker, and is generous with his money where success depends upon the right employment of the contents of a "barrel." His declination undoubtedly weakens the ticket, at a time when all the strength that can be commanded will be needed.

SHILOH'S CURE will immediately relieve Croup, Whooping Cough and Bronchitis. For sale at A. C. Smith & Co.'s Drug store.

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It is a gratifying fact, that the interest in music is steadily on the increase in our city, and to enable every family to possess a musical instrument, we have decided to greatly reduce the prices on Pianos, Organs, Violins, Guitars, Banjos, etc. Our long experience in the business, and extensive acquaintance with our patrons, will be a guarantee as to the reliable quality of our goods. We have just received some splendid Ladies' Violins, Dobson Banjos, Washburn Guitars, New Songs, New Music Books, etc. Call or send to us for your Violin, Guitar, or Banjo Strings, for which we are celebrated, or anything you need in the Musical line.

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It's Too Funny to Describe.
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GRAB IT QUICK!
By securing your Seats at Box Office on Tuesday, at 10 a m.

NOTICE.

THE TRUSTEES OF THE SEVENTH School District, Salt Lake County, Utah Territory, will on Thursday, the 8th day of October, A.D. 1885, at 3.30 p.m., in the School House of said district, meet as a Board of Equalization to hear and determine complaints, if any, in regard to the assessed valuation of any property in said district, and to equalize and correct the same, and to remit or abate the tax of any indigent person in said district, and they will continue in session for said purpose until 7 p.m. of said date.

Dated September 26, 1885.
HENRY WALLACE,
BENJAMIN J. RAYBOLD,
DAVID MCKENZIE,
Trustees of the Seventh School District, Salt Lake County, Utah Territory.

\$500 REWARD

The Sum of FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS will be paid for information that will lead to the apprehension and conviction of the person or persons who perpetrated the dastardly outrages at the residences of Commissioner McKay and Attorneys Dickson and Varian, in this city, on the night of the 12th inst.

JAMES SHARP,
Mayor.

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New, Clean, Well Located, Now Open. Travelers desiring Good Accommodations should not fail to call.

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TERMS—\$1.00, \$1.25, and \$1.50 Per Day
Meals at All Hours. 25c.

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Conference Announcement.

For the accommodation of our Patrons and Friends who contemplate visiting Logan during the General Conference, we will have on exhibition at our Logan Branch, Full Lines of Samples of Goods carried by this Institution.

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H. S. ELDRIDGE,
Supt.

Z. C. M. I.

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